

TO: House Health and Human Services Committee

FROM: Tara Mays, Vice President

DATE: February 5, 2025

RE: House Bill 2070

The Kansas Hospital Association (KHA) appreciates the opportunity to submit written comments in support of House Bill 2070.

Many Kansas hospitals have dieticians on staff to help ensure patients get the right nutritional meals to help with their overall health outcomes. These positions play a critical role in patient care and patient outcomes. Inpatient and Outpatient care includes access to nutritional professionals that can help guide Kansans to making healthier choices.

Currently, those dieticians must carry licenses in each state that they see patients. Our hospital dieticians have expressed to us that a compact licensure would make things more streamlined for their professional certification and would reduce the need to pay for multiple licenses.

¹According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of registered dietitians is expected to grow due to increased emphasis on disease prevention, the aging population and public interest overall in nutrition.

Streamlining licensure helps make our state more competitive in a tight workforce market and we hope that this incentivizes more dieticians serving in the medical fields to manage patients in Kansas.

KHA hopes that you will join us in supporting House Bill 2070, and we thank you for your consideration of our written comments.

_

¹ https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/dietitians-and-nutritionists.htm#:~:text=in%20May%202023.-,Job%20Outlook,on%20average%2C%20over%20the%20decade.